BOOK NOTICE

Review of Gage's "The Microscope," Ultra-violet, 15th Edition

The Microscope. By Simon Henry Gage, Emeritus Professor of Histology and Embryology, Cornell University, Ultra-violet (15th edition). Ithaca, N. Y., Comstock Publishing Company, 8vo., 589 pp., 291 figures, plates, 1932, $4.00.

A new revised edition of a standard reference work is always welcome. This is particularly true when, as in this instance, there has been added a wealth of new and important information. Previous editions of this work have long occupied an honored place in many of the foremost biological workshops, and are of an excellence too well known everywhere for space here to be given to an outline of their contents. This new ultra-violet edition of the book, which has just appeared from the press, bids fair to supersede in usefulness all those previously issued. For this revision the entire work has been reset, obsolete illustrations replaced, the subject-matter revised, rearranged, and brought down to date. Probably the more outstanding changes in this revision have been the addition of most recent information on the ultra-violet microscope and its use, and on the technique of using ultra-violet radiation in the study of living fresh and fixed tissue; and in the study of living organisms. This section, like the remainder of the volume, is fully illustrated, and the apparatus and methods are described with a fullness that will enable teachers and research workers readily to install and use the required apparatus. Especial emphasis also has been placed upon the technique of what might be termed "the physical analysis of structure" by means of the dark field, the ultra-violet, and the polarizing microscope and the micro-spectroscope. In this edition changes have been made and material added on the historical development of the microscope. It is evident that a work of this kind, unlike an original monograph, must be largely a compilation; therefore the aid of stu-

dents and associates has been enjoyed and acknowledged. Of particular helpfulness is the very full and complete bibliography, occupying pages 555 to 566, which would enable the student not only to become informed concerning the latest literature on the subject but would also enable him to make a historical survey of its development. The format of the book is excellent, though it is regretted that the publishers used plain cloth binding instead of some form of keratol, buckram or other moisture-proof binding, as this would have been much more efficient for a volume intended for constant use in the midst of the disorder of waste liquids on a laboratory table. An immense lot of toil and pains has been given to the preparation of this work and it, like its predecessors, is certain to possess a wide usefulness.—J. S. WADE.